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24 August 1961

RECIPIENT FOR : The Special Group
SUBJECT : Proposal to Underground Project IDEALIST U-2 Detachment,
Adana, Turkey

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2. BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

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a. Since 23 August 1958, U-2 aircraft have been continuously positioned at Incirlik Air Base, Adana, Turkey.

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[redacted]

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The Detachment consisted of four U-2 aircraft and approximately [redacted] personnel made up of [redacted] contract pilots, and technical [redacted]

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representatives.

b. Covert aerial reconnaissance was conducted successfully from this base during the period 11 September 1958 to 1 May 1960. All flights of U-2's from Incirlik Air Base ceased as of 3 May 1960 as a result of the May First Incident, and not even local flights of U-2's have been conducted since that date. As a result, the exact status of the capability has not been subject to the test of actual operation. This is considered to be an unsatisfactory

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situation in view of the ever present possibility that a political flare-up

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an area within reach of Army based B-2's would find our assets unprepared.

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4. In August 1968 steps were taken by CIA to reduce the number of aircraft and personnel in place in the Aden Detachment to a minimum holding force and a single U-2 aircraft, whose sole purpose was to maintain the franchise and to offer a contingency capability should world conditions dictate.

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By January 1961 the unit was reduced to a total of individuals, of whom 25X1A

percentage and the balance were covered and paid.

port types, including [redacted] technical representatives who remained to service the aircraft left in place. The unit is headed by [redacted]

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ANSWER The answer is 1000. The area of the rectangle is 1000 square centimeters.

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2. PROPOSAL:

It is proposed that as a first step in re-establishing the operational readiness of the Adana U-2 unit, a low key program of local, low level flights be instituted by the Detachment without delay, utilizing a civilian pilot flown in for this purpose from the United States. This program involves two phases; the first would be routine maintenance test flights at local low altitudes over a five to ten-day period. The second phase would be training missions within altitude and area restrictions prescribed by Turkey. Individual flights would be cleared in advance by CIA Headquarters until the training pattern of phase two was established as routine. Turkish reaction to each flight, including press comment if any, would be observed during both phases of the program.

3. The cover story that would accompany this ungrounding should information be required other than a statement that these were routine maintenance test flights would be as follows:

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"The U-2 stationed at Adana is being flight tested" [redacted]

[redacted]
The aircraft has previously been on standby for this contingency but has not been flown. Initial test flights will

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include pilot proficiency missions (locom, low level), ECM exercises, and touch and go landings. The second phase will include flights within the altitude and area restrictions prescribed by the Turkish Government.

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C. If there were to be no adverse local reaction to resumption of flying in the manner proposed, it would be assumed that a full technical capability had been re-established, after which point the U-2 Detachment would be kept at little more than its present strength as an active asset in being for any contingencies that might arise. Subsequently, specific proposals for covert aerial reconnaissance or SIGINT collection using the U-2 aircraft at [] would be made to the Special Group as dictated by world conditions, and if these proposals were then approved, a full maintenance and operating capability would be staged into Incirlik Air Base to accomplish the operational mission.

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